



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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KABATA Establishes Public-Private Partnership Task Force

The Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority board of directors has established a Public-Private Partnership (P3) Task Force to identify and select a private partner to finance, design, construct, operate and maintain the Knik Arm Crossing.

KABATA's former executive director Henry Springer has accepted the position as Director of the P3 Process that will head the new task force. He will direct, manage and control all functions of the task force. Initial members of the task force include KABATA's Deputy Executive Director of Corporate Affairs Darryl Jordan, Chief Financial Officer Kevin Hemenway and Chief Engineer Verne Geidl.

To continue management of its day-to-day responsibilities, the board has hired Andrew Niemiec as KABATA Executive Director. Mr. Niemiec is a registered professional civil engineer graduate from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and has over 20 years experience in road and bridge construction with the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities. He most recently was the Northern Region Director for ADOT&PF headquartered in Fairbanks.

KABATA was established by the Alaska Legislature in 2003 to construct a bridge across the Knik Arm of Cook Inlet to connect the Municipality of Anchorage with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Environmental Impact Study and initial project planning have been undertaken using Federal funds. Private financing is being sought to construct and maintain the bridge and related facilities.

Two investor groups have expressed interest in the project: Bougyues Travaux Public of France teamed with URS of San Francisco and Macquarie Bank of Australia teamed with Kiewit Pacific of Seattle. A competitive procurement process, compliant with Federal and State regulations, is being followed to select a P3 partner.

It is expected that the P3 procurement process will require six months to a year before a contract can be signed.

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